

## HOLIDAY **DRIVING** SAFETY



During the holiday season, roads are packed with people traveling to visit family, shop, and celebrate. Unfortunately, it is also a popular time for people to socialize with alcohol, increasing the number of irresponsible drivers. In 2007, there were nearly 5,000 traffic deaths in the U.S. between Thanksgiving and New Years – 41.5% of these were alcohol related! Help keep our roads safe and ensure your own security this holiday season by keeping in mind these safety tips when driving and when hosting a holiday party.

## On The Road

- Wear a safety belt at all times (lap belt on lap/shoulder strap on shoulder)
- > Don't talk on your cell phone or text while driving
- ➤ Always place children in age appropriate child safety restraint systems (infant/child seats, booster, etc.) correctly installed
- ➤ Place all children less than 12 years old in the back seat at all times
- ➤ Never leave children alone in the car. It is dangerous and illegal in California
  - Never drink and drive!
  - > Always use a designated driver
  - Even if you are not drinking, always be alert to those on the road that have been



## Hosting a Responsible Party

- ➤ Have non-alcoholic beverages available for guests
- > Serve light foods such as meats and cheeses to help retard alcohol absorption
- Arrange for an official designated driver for your party
- > Find alternate transportation for intoxicated guests or persuade them to sleep over
- ➤ Be responsible for your guests, even if it means taking their car keys



Information obtained from: Los Angeles Police Department, National Safety Council, and Centers for Disease Control



